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HISTORY

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OF

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LANSINGBURGH, N. Y.

FROM THE YEAR 1670 TO 1877.

BY

A. J. WEISE, A. M.

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TROY, N. Y.:  
WILLIAM H. YOUNG,  
8 & 9 FIRST STREET,  
1877.

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EDWARD GREEN, PRINTER,  
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P R E F A C E.

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More than a century ago, the present site of the village of Lansingburgh was supposed to be the most eligible situation for a city that could be found along the Hudson, north of Albany. The circumjacent country was fertile and cultivated; wheat and other staple productions needed a convenient market; and the people of the northern territory required a congregating place for the transaction of business and the conveyance of property.

To favor its growth and prosperity, there was at this time, a tide of emigration setting westward from the older New England towns, which, with little effort, was directed to this newly laid out "City." The associated interests of the Dutch farmers and the New England merchants soon demanded the erection of commodious warehouses and the possession of a large number of vessels for the transportation of home and foreign productions.

These favoring circumstances, however, were shortly after seriously affected by an insufficient depth of water in the river during a summer drought, at which time, vessels only of the smallest capacity could ascend as far as Lansingburgh. The few settlers who had established themselves, with but limited means, at Van der Heyden's ferry, a few miles to the southward, took advantage of this unfortunate occurrence, and with mercantile shrewdness, got great gain thereby.

When, at length, Troy grew to some importance as a village, at the head of ordinary navigation, the two places became closely related. For this reason, it is impossible to acquire a true and distinct knowledge of their early settlement and subsequent growth,

without being acquainted with the histories of both Lansingburgh and Troy.

Many of the earlier inhabitants of Troy were first residents of Lansingburgh; and now, after a century of connected, and, sometimes, conflicting interests, the two are rapidly growing into one large and extended city. Whatever may appear as omitted in the history of the one, will be found treated in its chronological order in the other.

To Cornelius L. Tracy, Esq., of Troy, whose valuable parchments were kindly placed to the use of the writer, thanks are returned.

The continued favors extended to the author by Charles J. Lansing, Esq., of Lansingburgh, have been of great service in the preparation of the present work; for which the author is under many obligations.

Also, to Hamlet Bontecou, and David Judson, of Lansingburgh, for privileges of their time and the benefit of their personal reminiscence, the writer would also tender his acknowledgments.

TROY, May 31, 1877.

## HISTORY OF LANSINGBURGH.

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It was not long after the Hollanders began to settle upon the fertile meadows and fruitful hills on the east side of the Hudson river, north of Fort Orange, that the broad, level and more elevated area of ground, upon which, at present, Lansingburgh is situated, attracted the attention of Robert Saunders, a resident of Albany. This extensive plateau was called by the Indians, Tascamcatick, and south of it was an adjacent piece of woodland known to them as Passquassick.

The former tract was granted him on the first day of September, 1670, by Francis Lovelace, Governor of the province of New York, under James II. The woodland, together with a small island, known by the name of Whale-fishing Island,<sup>1</sup> was conveyed to him on the 22d of March, 1679, by Sir Edmund Andros. As quit-rents for these several grants, three bushels of good winter wheat were to be paid annually unto the officers of the Crown, if ever such payment should be demanded.

Robert Saunders, on the 19th of September, 1681, sold a portion of the woodland, Passquassick, which lay south of the Piscawen Kill, to Peter Van Woggelum; the creek being thereafter recognized as the dividing line of the lands of the two proprietors.

<sup>1</sup> Walvisch Eylant, Whale Island, now submerged by the accumulated water above the State Dam. The following tradition, related by Van der Donck in his *New Netherland*, gave name to the island. The winter of 1646-47 was extremely cold and the river closed November the 25th and remained so for four months thereafter. In the month of March a great freshet occurred, "by which the water of the river became nearly fresh to the bay, when at ordinary seasons the salt water flows up from twenty to twenty-four miles (Dutch miles) from the sea. At this season, two whales of common size swam up the river forty miles, from which place one of them returned and stranded about twelve miles from the sea, near which four others stranded the same year. The other ran further up the river and grounded near the great Chahoos falls, about forty-three miles from the sea. This fish was tolerably fat, for, although the citizens of Rensselaerwyck broiled out a great quantity of train oil, still the whole river, (the current being still rapid) was oily for three weeks, and covered with grease. As the fish lay rotting, the air was infected with its stench to such a degree that the smell was offensive and perceptible for two miles leeward. For what purpose those whales ascended the river so far, it being at the time full forty miles from all salt or brackish water, it is difficult to say, unless their great desire for fish, which were plenty at this season, led them onward."

The original patentee did not long retain possession of the remaining property, Tascamcatick, but disposed of it to Joannes Wendell, on the 26th day of May, 1683. Joannes Wendell afterward added to this purchase another piece of woodland which extended along the river northward to a certain Kill called by the Indians, Paensick.

These lands of Joannes Wendell were confirmed to him by Governor Thomas Dongan in a patent, dated the 22d day of July, 1686, known as the Steene (Stony) Arabia Patent. In the third year of the reign of King George III, and on the twenty-first day of June, 1763, Robert Wendell, heir of Joannes Wendell, then in possession of this farm land, sold to Abraham Jacob Lansingh, for the sum of three hundred pounds, that part of his land, beginning opposite the middle branch of the Mohawk river, and running thence eastward as far as the Stony Arabia patent extended,<sup>1</sup> formerly called and known by the Indian name Tascamcatick, excepting that which had been sold unto Simon Van Antwerpe, but, at that time, in possession of William Rogers.<sup>2</sup>

Roughened by alluvial deposits of gravel and water-worn stones, this tract of land, Stony Arabia, it is likely, had but little agricultural value else than for pasturage. As an eligible and favorable site for a village or a city, it seemingly possessed advantages of situation, soil and scenery surpassing any other locality along the river, between it and Albany. Conjecturing the possibilities of further emigration, and of additional settlements along the upper

<sup>1</sup> By deed between Abraham Jacob Lansingh (dated July 13, 1769) and Stephen van Rensselaer, the north bounds of the Manor of Rensselaerwyck, and the south bounds of the Stony Arabia patent were agreed upon and settled as follows: "Beginning on the east bank of Hudson river, by a stump about east from the south end of Whale-fishing Island, and over against the second spruyt, and runs from the said stump south sixty-nine degrees east along a line of marked trees one hundred and seventy-eight chains to a white oak tree in the land of Adam Shufell, where there is a small heap of stones laid together; the said tree is marked on the west and north sides with the letters A. J. L. 1769, and on the south and east sides S. V. R. 1769, and then north nineteen degrees and forty-five minutes east, one hundred and twenty-eight chains and seventy-five links to a marked black oak tree, standing one hundred and seventy-eight chains distant from the east bank of the Hudson river, opposite to the third spruyt,—on a course south sixty-nine degrees east, where a black oak tree is marked on the east side thereof with the letters S. V. R. 1769, and on the west side with the letters A. J. L. 1769, and then from the last mentioned black oak, the said course of north nineteen degrees, forty-five minutes east, one hundred and five chains and sixty links to a marked chestnut tree standing on a line of old marked trees running from the Cohoes or Great Fall of Waters, north eighty-eight degrees, for the north bounds of the Manor of Rensselaerwyck, and thence from the said chestnut tree south eighty eight degrees west, along the said old marked trees to Hudson river, and thence southerly along said river to place of beginning."

<sup>2</sup> See Map of Settlements in the Manor of Rensselaerwyck, 1767, opposite the title page of the History of the City of Troy.

Hudson, and of an increased productiveness of the surrounding territory, which was in part already under cultivation, it consequently assumed a relative importance and valuation to its owner, far beyond the mere returns of a tilled and pastured farm. In view of such local contingencies it was that Abraham Jacob Lansingh, early in the year 1771, had a portion of his farm surveyed by Joseph Blanchard, and named the newly laid out streets, alleys and lots, the City of Lansingburgh.<sup>1</sup>

The number of lots upon it are two hundred and eighty-eight. The plat is included between North, South and East streets and the Hudson river. King and Queen streets, which appear upon this map, were changed April 15, 1833, to State and Congress streets.

For the government of this embryo city, and town of Stone Arabia, a compact, called at the time "Proposals," was on the first day of January, 1771, agreed upon, and officers were chosen to regulate the civil affairs of the people.<sup>2</sup> A Committee consisting of five persons, a Town-"Clark," a Path-Master, and three Fence-Viewers, were annually to be elected. In the agreement it was declared that Abraham Jacob Lansingh, or his heirs forever, should be one of the Committee, and equal to one of the other four selected. Over the first Town-Meeting, Ebenezer Marvin was elected Moderator, and Thomas S. Diamond, Clerk. The first Committee consisted of Abraham Jacob Lansingh, Isaac Bogart, John Barber, Ebenezer Marvin and Benjamin French. Abraham Wendell was

<sup>1</sup> The Map is filed in the Albany County Clerk's office, and is marked number 18. The following description is attached to it: "This Map describeth a tract of land lying on the east side of Hudson's river, about eight miles above the City of Albany, and is layed out in a regular square for the erecting a City by the name of Lansingburgh; the lots are one hundred and twenty feet long and fifty wide. The streets are seventy feet wide, and the alleys are twenty feet wide; the oblong square (the Green or Park) in the center is reserved for publick uses. Laid down by a scale of ninety feet to an inch. June 7, 1771. Joseph Blanchard, Surveyor. May 11, 1771. A. Jacob Lansingh.

<sup>2</sup> The following names of inhabitants appear upon the records of these town meetings: January 1, 1772—William Spotton, William Pemberton, Ralph Watson, Jacob A. Lansingh, Isaac Lansingh, John D. Fonda, Henrick Lansingh, Ishua Austain, Josiah Rose, Abraham Stephens. Nathaniel Oaks, John Walker, Archibald Cambell, Aldah Funda, Francis Lansingh, Levinus Lansingh, Anthony van Schaick, Justus Brown. 1773—Abraham K. van Vleck, Flores Bancker, John Tillman, Roger Noble, Henry Van Arnum, John Breesing, Stephen Marvin, William Carr, James Willson, James Boggs, Benjamin Evans, Joseph Joy, Obediah Benthous. 1774—David Callender, Christopher Tillman, John D. Wynkoop, Cornelius Lansingh, Michael Housewirt, John Follet, Daniel Toneray, John Clark, Adonijah Starnborough, Cornelius Noble, Robert Thompson, Frederick Weber. 1777—James Williams. 1784—Albert Pawling, Jeremiah Hoogland. 1785—John Van Rensselaer, Horace Seymour, Sidney Berry, Samuel Cogswell.



chosen Path-Master, and Robert Wendell, Levinus Lansingh, and Isaac van Arnum, Fence-Viewers.

Whatever may have been the inducements offered, or the circumstances of the period, the fact is evident in the records of the place, that the newly laid out City of Lansingburgh quickly attracted the attention of many New England emigrants, who, in a few years gave it a respectable population, actively engaged in various manufacturing interests, and industriously absorbed in different mercantile and commercial pursuits.

The educational wants of this growing community, both secular and religious, were apparently supplied by an officiating school-master, who, besides instructing the children placed under his care during the week, on Sundays publicly read such selected sermons as were desired by his Dutch and English hearers. This appears in an agreement, dated the second day of May, 1774, in which Maus R. Van Vranka stipulated for the sum of fifty pounds lawful money of New York, "to teach such and only such a number of scholars, (not exceeding forty) reading, writing and arithmetic in the best manner," and "on every Sunday throughout the year, excepting four Sundays reserved for himself, to read one English and one Dutch sermon."

The political position of the early inhabitants immediately previous to the Revolutionary war, is fully set forth in the following remarkable utterances of patriotic fervor and loyal determination :

"LANSINGBURGH, May 22, 1775.

"A General Association agreed to and subscribed by the Freemen Freeholders and Inhabitants of the town of Lansingburgh and Patent of Stone Arabia :

"Persuaded that the salvation of the rights and liberties of America depends, under God, on the firm union of its inhabitants in a vigorous prosecution of the measures necessary for its safety,—convinced of the necessity of preventing the anarchy and confusion which attend a dissolution of the power of government, We, the Freemen, Freeholders and Inhabitants of the Town of Lansingburgh and Patent of Stone Arabia, being greatly alarmed at the avowed design of the British Ministry to raise a revenue in America, and shocked by the bloody scenes now acting in Massachusetts Bay Government, in the most solemn manner,

"Resolve, never to become slaves, and do associate ourselves under all the ties of religion, honour and love to our country, to adopt

and endeavor to carry into execution whatever measures may be recommended by the Continental Congress, or resolved by our Provincial Convention, for the purpose of preserving our Constitution, and opposing the execution of the several arbitrary and oppressive acts of the British Parliament, until a reconciliation between Great Britain and America, on Constitutional principles can be obtained, than which we wish for nothing more ardently, and we do hereby covenant, promise and agree that we will in all things follow the advice of our General Committee respecting the purpose aforesaid, the preservation of peace, good order and safety of the individuals and private property.

"Abraham Jacob Lansingh, Christopher Tillman, John D. Wynkoop, Abraham Ten Eyck, Benjamin French, John Barber, James Selkirk, Daniel Toneray, Jonathan Severs, Henry Pollock, Michael Houseworth, John Fine, Stephen Marvin, James Boggs, Abraham Ouderkerk, Ephraim Griswold, Samuel Higgins, James Willson, Justus Brown, John Clark, David Layten, Francis Hogle, John Sloan, Gerry Lane, Samuel Burns, Isaac van Arnum, Robert Wendell, Pennell Brown, Frederick Weaver, Levinus Lansingh, William Thomkins, Joseph Bacon, John Dunbar, Peletiah Winchell, John Young, Levinus Laverse, Gershom French, Joseph Jones, John Skiffington, Thos. Cook, William Nicholls, Alexander Boyd, John Winn, Josiah Rose, Daniel Shaw, Aaron Ward, William Conklin, Edward Bruster, Samuel Bruster, Jacob A. Lansingh.

"A line copy of the original Association paper, drawn this 15th day of June, 1775. CHR. TILLMAN, Town Clerk."

Almost all of these men, whose names were subscribed to this memorable document, are found enrolled upon the lists of the local militia,<sup>1</sup> many of whom during the long struggle for freedom and self-government, by brave conduct in the line of duty, had public mention made of their heroic services, and were promoted to honorable positions in the army.

During this disturbed condition of the country, the records contained little else than the commonplace transactions of the town-meetings. Several resolutions entered upon the books at this time betray an extreme cautiousness of the local administration regarding the appearance of strangers in the place :

"Resolved, (January 24, 1778,) That no person or persons shall

<sup>1</sup> See pages 17 and 18 of the History of the City of Troy.

settle in this town or district, without liberty from the majority of this Committee."

"Resolved, (March 1, 1787,) That whereas a number of persons are lurking about this town, apparently strangers, that each member of the Committee shall use their utmost exertions of informing themselves of every person that has lately come to town, and examine their recommendations, and every suspected character, to make report of the same to the authority."

In the year 1787, the New City<sup>1</sup> of Lansingburgh had attained to such importance as a village as to warrant the establishment of a printing office, and the issue of a weekly newspaper. When on Monday morning, May 21, 1787, "Claxton & Babcock in King Street between Hoosack and South Streets," distributed to the people "The Northern Centinel and Lansingborough Advertiser,"<sup>2</sup> a printed sheet, seventeen by twenty inches, it was justly regarded as one of the latest evidences of the progress and enterprise of the place. This newspaper, the first one printed within the present limits of Rensselaer County, did not contain a paragraph of local news else than an address to the public by the publishers. Its contents were several columns of European news of three months earlier date than that of the paper, a few brief accounts of events occurring three weeks previously in the cities of New York, Philadelphia and Boston, a quantity of miscellaneous matter, and five advertisements, one of which was that of the firm of Aaron and Derick Lane, merchants. The patronage which this journal received was obtained from an extensive territory, and the paper was carried thither by Samuel Brown, a Post-rider,<sup>3</sup> and one of the advertisers found in the first issue :

"SAMUEL BROWN,

POST-RIDER,

Respectfully informs the public that he has undertaken to convey the Northern Centinel to the subscribers regularly every week. He leaves the Printing-office in Lansingborough every Monday morning, and proceeds up the west side of the North-River as far as Fort-Edward, where he crosses the river, and extends his course eastward to Great White-Creek, and then returns to this town. He

<sup>1</sup> At this time, Lansingburgh was generally known by the name of "New City," (Nieuw Stadt) in contradistinction to the Old City, (Oude Stadt) Albany.

<sup>2</sup> This title appeared at the head of each newspaper for several months, when the name Lansingborough was changed to Lansingburgh, being an error of the publishers.

<sup>3</sup> See pages 44 and 45, History of the City of Troy.



has given good security, to the Printers, for the faithful performance of his duty, which he flatters himself will induce many to subscribe.

"The price of this paper, including postage, is but ten shillings per annum. Subscriptions are received at all the most public taverns on the above roads. Lansinghborough, May 21, 1787."

Elkanah Watson, a traveller, thus writes in his journal concerning New City, in the year 1788: "This place is thronged with merchants, emigrants, principally, from New England, who have enjoyed a very extensive and lucrative trade, supplying Vermont and the region on both banks of the Hudson, as far as Lake George, with merchandise, and receiving in payment wheat, pot and pearl ashes, and lumber."

The prospects of Lansingburgh becoming a large city were never more favorable than at this time. Buildings of every description were in great demand, either for residence or storage. For the want of immediate accommodation, not a few of the daily arriving emigrants were turned away to go elsewhere with their families and small fortunes. The river, after the opening of navigation in the spring, was flecked with the sails of a multitude of water-craft, going and returning upon voyages to home and foreign ports. Grain and other staple commodities formed the freights of these departing vessels, which returning, were generally laden with dry goods, groceries, hardware, and liquors. Prosperity smiled upon its merchants,<sup>1</sup> while trade recompensed their tact and outlays with generous pecuniary returns.

The rapid growth of the place, having exceeded the expectation of its founder and earlier settlers, it was found necessary to abandon the first form of government as set forth in the "Proposals," and to procure the passage of an act of incorporation in order "to regulate

<sup>1</sup> Men of business in the year 1787: Merchants—Aaron and Derick Lane, Ezra Hickok, Janes & Dole, Platt & Williams, Nathaniel Jacobs, Jr., Thomas Bassel, Wm. Bell & Co., Wm. Chaise, Cogswell & Selden, Selden & Jones, Hoogland & Seymour, John van Rensselaer, James Hickok, James Magee & Co., Flores Bancker, W. & S. Brayton, George Tibbits, William Davis, Robert White & Co., Wm. Spotten, Stephen & Shubael Gorham. William Willes, gun smith and brass founder; John Stillwell, hotel keeper; Matthew Lyne, land office; Samuel Jones, joiner and tool-maker; Smith & Whitney, Yates & Rockwell, watch makers; Caleb Smith, Enos Westover, coopers; Gideon Hinman, druggist. In 1788, merchants, of the firm of Ephraim Morgan & Co., Ephraim Morgan, Jonas Morgan and John Bordman; Samuel Chace, John Tibbits, Goddard Spencer, John T. Arden, Joshua Burnham, Collins & Sherlock, Caleb & T. Street; Annanias Platt, proprietor of the Bull's Head Tavern; Thomas Dilks, boots and shoes; Aaron Noble, hatter; William Guest, leather; Stephen Jackson, manufacturer of cut nails; Wm. Carter, land office. In 1789—Merchants, George & Benjamin Tibbits, Christopher Tillman, Nathaniel Williams, Benjamin Winthrop, Redfield & Bradley, Jonathan Burr, John Harbeck; William Disturnell, clock and watch maker; Andrew Glass, furniture.

their internal police and to secure the benefits of certain commonable lands<sup>1</sup> lying within the same."

An act appointing Trustees was passed by the Legislature on the fifth day of April, 1790,<sup>2</sup> by which John Van Rensselaer, Christopher Tillman, Elijah Janes, Aaron Ward, Stephen Gorham, Ezra Hickok, and Levinus Lansingh were declared to be the "first Trustees for the freeholders and inhabitants of that part of the town of Rensselaerwyck commonly called Lansingburgh."

Among the duties of the aforesaid Trustees, they were empowered "to appoint a sufficient number of men willing to accept, not exceeding fifteen in number, out of the inhabitants residing in Lansingburgh to have the care, management, working and use of the fire engine or engines, belonging to the said freeholders and inhabitants; and also the other tools and instruments for extinguishing fires." These firemen were "to be freed and exempted from serving in the office of constable and overseer of the highways, and of and from serving as jurors, and of and from serving in the militia, except in cases of invasion, or other imminent danger."

It is probable that a fire company was shortly afterwards organized, and the ancient and quaint apparatus, known as old Number

<sup>1</sup> These commonable lands were certain tracts of woodland and pasture land circumjacent to various farms in the town of Lansingburgh, the several boundaries of which are shown upon a "Plan of the Town of Lansingburgh, in the Patent of Stone Arabia, laid down by a scale of ten chains to an inch, by Flores Bancker, Anno Domini, 1787." The names of the different owners and the number of acres possessed by them, as shown upon this map, are as follows: Jacob A. Lansingh's tract, 620 acres, the northernmost farm bordering upon the river; next south, Cornelius Lansingh's farm, 236 acres; next south, Levines Lansingh's, 193 acres—this farm included the Flores Bancker block, bounded north by Bancker street, (Market street) east by East st., south by North st., and west by River or Water st. Next south, was the village of Lansingburgh, from North to South streets, and Abraham Jacob Lansingh's tract, which included the village as far as North street, 395 acres. The farms which lay east of these were: Levines Lansingh's, 135 acres; Dirck I. Van der Heyden's, 180; Adam Beam's, 50; E. Hudson's, 50; A. Beam's of Van Der Heyden, 50; John G. Yates, 150; Zachariah Garnrych's, in two parts, 47 and 50 acres; Peter Gowey's, 12 and 143 acres; Levines Lansingh, 14; C. Lansingh, 6; William Leverage, 105; Abraham Jacob Lansingh, 20 and 50 acres; Platt Williams & Tibbits, 14; John V. Rensselaer, 5½; Hoogland & Seymour, 4 acres; Jno. Van Der Warken's farm, 105; David Brewster's, 130; Jno. Tibbits, 110; Flores Bancker, 150; L. Walkers, 40; Hendrick Van Arnum, 105; William Leverage, 108 acres. On the passage of the act, April 5, 1790, Abraham Jacob Lansingh transferred these commonable lands on the 13th of January, 1791, to the "Trustees for the Freeholders and inhabitants of that part of the town of Rensselaerwyck commonly called Lansingburgh." However, these lands becoming unproductive under the tenure by which they were held, they were sold under an act of Legislature, passed February 14, 1816, to Levinus Lansing, Cornelius Lansing, Derick Lane, Abraham C. Lansing, James Van Schoonhoven and Wm. I. Lansing, the heirs and representatives of Jacob A. Lansing. The consideration money became a fund for the benefit of the freeholders and inhabitants of the village, and was to be vested in some productive public or bank stock, or by loaning it to individuals, sufficiently secured by mortgage on real property.

<sup>2</sup> It is probable that Lansingburgh is "one of the oldest, if not the oldest chartered village in the State.

One was in the following year purchased in Philadelphia. The peculiar construction and age of this fire engine have made it a curious relic of the earlier history of Lansingburgh, and worthy of careful preservation as a time-honored memento of the past.

The vigorous and enterprising founder of Lansingburgh lived long enough to see it grow into a thriving village, with large warehouses, numerous stores and dwellings, and the bustle and stir of trade. His death and that of his wife, were announced in the *American Spy* on Friday, October 14, 1791, as follows: "Died, last Sunday evening, at his seat,<sup>1</sup> in the 72d year of his age, Abraham J. Lansingh, Esq., the original proprietor of this town. On Saturday morning preceding, Mrs. Catharine Lansingh, his consort, died, in the 69th year of her age."

Previous to the establishment of a Post-office in Lansingburgh, letters were sent to Albany, and there mailed to their destination. The addresses of all letters received at the office were published in the local papers, and the parties to whom they were directed sent for them either by private parties, post-riders, or by the stage-drivers. Annanias Platt, to whom had been granted by the State Legislature<sup>2</sup> the right to run a line of stages between Lansingburgh and Albany, advertised that "the public will please to take notice, that four pence will be required, as postage, for each letter which may be conveyed by the stage from Lansingburgh to Albany, or from Albany to Lansingburgh. Those who wish to have their letters conveyed by the year, will make their arrangements with A. Platt."<sup>3</sup> Early in the month of April, 1791, Stephen Gorham received his appointment as deputy Postmaster for the town, but it was not until the first of June, 1792, that a post-office was established in Lansingburgh. In the interval the mails were taken to and received from Albany. Stephen Gorham, in the summer of 1792, was succeeded by John Lovett, who, shortly after his acceptance of the office of Deputy Postmaster, was made the Postmaster at Lansingburgh.

Respecting the river navigation as far as Lansingburgh, the following paragraphs, taken from the *American Spy* of March 8, 1793, refer as follows :

<sup>1</sup> West of Catharine street, near the river, at present the property of Nathaniel B. Powers, 405 State street.

<sup>2</sup> See pages 27 and 28, History of the City of Troy.

<sup>3</sup> The Federal Herald, August 31, 1789.

"The sloop Arabia, of 90 tons burden, arrived at this place yesterday, and is now loading for New York.

"It is of great importance to the business of this place that vessels of 80 or 90 tons can generally load at our docks through the spring season, at which time the most of the produce of the country is shipped off; and it is contemplated that the same advantage will continue through the whole season after the present year, as dams are to be erected next summer to give a sufficient depth of water up to this town to navigate vessels of 40 and 50 tons burthen."

Although from the minutes of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church, it appears that as early as June 18, 1782, Rev. Brandt Schuyler Lupton, V. D. M., preached in Lansingburgh, yet it was not until the 3d of November, 1788, that he was recognized as pastor of a congregation. From the records of the aforesaid body, his ordination was appointed for the third Sunday in November, 1788. Revs. Dirck Romeyn, Eli Westerlo, Lamb de Ronde, John Basset and James V. C. Romeyn, were ordered to take part in these services.

This congregation selected Flores Bancker as an Elder, and Albert Pawling and Christopher Tillman, Deacons. A house of worship was erected on the north-west corner of John and Richard streets, where at present the large brush manufactory of J. G. McMurray & Sons is situated. The old wooden structure was for many years a monument of the early history of the place, and was used for a long period as a meeting house. The two lots numbers 337 and 338, together with the old building, was sold by the Trustees of the Reformed Presbyterian Church of Troy and Lansingburgh, December 6th, 1832, to George Olsaver. From the time of the death of Rev. Mr. Lupton, the congregation seems to have continued as an organization until about the year 1800, when the pastorate of the church was declared vacant in the synodical assembly of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church. Ezra Hitchcock is mentioned as an Elder of the congregation in 1794.

The subsequent disorganization of this first religious body is due most likely to the incorporation of a second congregation, the First Presbyterian Church of Lansingburgh. Of this event the following record is preserved: "Be it remembered, that on the 9th day of August, A. D. 1792, the inhabitants of Lansingburgh, in consequence of due notice, convened in general meeting for the pur-



pose of organizing themselves in a religious society, agreeably to the directions of an Act of the Legislature of the State of "New York, &c., and in pursuance of the directions of said act, did, on this day elect Levinus Lansingh, John Lovett, John D. Dickinson, James Dole, Jonas Morgan and Shubael Gorham trustees for said congregation; and the said inhabitants did vote and agree that the said corporation should be known by law by the name of the Trustees of the First Presbyterian Church and congregation in Lansingburgh." Proposals for building a brick church sixty-four by fifty feet were advertised for in the local paper on the 22d of February, 1793. The corner-stone of the edifice was laid on Thursday evening, July 5th, 1793, by Rev. Jonas Coe, the pastor of the united congregations of Lansingburgh and Troy.<sup>1</sup> The dedication occurred in June, 1794, and was thus referred to in the American Spy: "On the 22d ult. the elegant Brick Church which has been lately built in this place was dedicated to the worship and service of God. On that memorable day, the Rev. Mr. Coe delivered a sermon in the morning to a numerous and respectable audience, well suited to the occasion." A poem written for the occasion by John Lovett, was sung. "In the afternoon a sermon was delivered by the Rev. Mr. Smith." The whole was conducted with a decency, propriety and solemnity well becoming so solemn and joyful an occasion.

This church was built upon the north end of "The Green," with its rear upon Hoosick street. The brick of which it was constructed were shipped from Holland by Levinus Lansingh, to be used in the erection of a house for himself, which, instead of doing, he gave them to the church, and was content to dwell in a house of wood.

Early in the year 1794, a subscription was started for the purpose of establishing a library in Lansingburgh, which resulted successfully, and on the 9th of September of that year, William Bell, being elected librarian, opened it, and thereafter, on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, from 12 M. to 2 P. M. were the appointed days and hours for procuring books.

In December, 1795, Luther Emes & Co. appointed Matthew Perry and Dudley Plank their agents to supply, with water from the aqueducts, all persons desiring it conveyed to their houses. Evidently from this statement, there was in the vicinity a reservoir for

<sup>1</sup> See page 31 History of the City of Troy.

water, and a series of pipes, probably wooden ones, laid underground along the line of streets.

The observance of St. John's day, June 24, 1795, by several Masonic bodies is thus described by the American Spy of June 30, 1795: "On Wednesday last, the anniversary of St. John the Baptist was celebrated in this place by Union, Patriot and Hiram Lodges, who assembled at the lodge room at Mr. Hanmer's, from whence they walked in procession to the church, where an excellent sermon well adapted to the occasion was delivered by the Rev. Mr. Coe. The singers at the church, aided by a few instruments of music, sang the hymn to Charity, and some other pieces of Psalmody most admirably. The procession returned in the same regular order to the lodge-room, where they partook of an elegant dinner, after which several Masonic toasts were drank, with some excellent songs, and the afternoon was spent with all the harmony, decorum and hilarity so peculiar to the craft. About 7 o'clock the company retired."

Hiram Lodge No. 35 was the first Masonic Lodge instituted in Lansingburgh; the warrant granted by the Grand Lodge bore date August 16, 1787. The lodge-room was, in 1795, on the second floor of Hanmer's tavern, now Phoenix Hotel. In 1799, Moses Willard, Elias Parmelee and Thomas Sketchley were prominent members.<sup>1</sup>

In Carey's edition of Guthrie's geography, published in the year 1795, the village is noticed in the following terms: "Lansingburgh, formerly called the new city, stands on the east side of the Hudson, nine miles north of Albany. It is a very flourishing place, pleasantly situated on a plain at the foot of a hill."

The traveling facilities between Lansingburgh and the neighboring places are thus spoken of in the year 1796: "A few years ago there was but one stage between this town and Albany. It was established and maintained at great expense by Mr. A. Platt, and for a considerable time had little encouragement. He, however, persevered, and at this day, this mode of traveling has so increased, that twenty stages pass and repass daily between the neighboring towns of Lansingburgh, Troy, Waterford and Albany, averaging more than 150 passengers per day, a proof of our growth and prosperity."

On the twentieth of October of the same year, a resolution was adopted by the village authorities respecting the design of a corpor-

<sup>1</sup> See History of the City of Troy, pp. 47.

ation seal: "Resolved, That the seal of the corporation shall be made with the following device, viz: A heart festooned, with an 'L' in the centre, and shall be kept by the Clerk for the use of the corporation." On the 19th of January, 1802, the following proceedings were had: "Whereas, the seal adopted by the Trustees of Lansingburgh, on the 20th of October, 1796, as a common seal, has been lost, and it has therefore become necessary to adopt another in stead thereof; therefore, Resolved, That the seal of the corporation be an oval, with an 'L' in the center, ornamented above the 'L' with a knot of ribband. By order of the Trustees. Joseph Alexander, Clerk."

The Fourth of July, 1798, was honored by the citizens of Lansingburgh in a very patriotic manner. The preparations for the celebration were thus announced: "The committee appointed by a respectable number of the inhabitants of this village, give notice that they have, at their late meeting, agreed to celebrate that *ever memorable day*, the Fourth of July, at Mrs. Galpin's. A *booth or bower* will be erected at the north end of the brick church, to which those who wish to join in the celebration are desired to repair." The events of this anniversary occasion a correspondent of the Northern Budget describes in the following words: "The day was ushered in by the firing of cannon and the ringing of the bell.<sup>1</sup> At sunrise, colours were hoisted under a second discharge of cannon. The Artillery under the command of Captain Keating, together with the Light Horse and Grenadiers from Troy, and the most numerous and respectable procession of citizens ever formed in this part of the county, paraded in the morning, and after passing in procession through two of the principal streets, proceeded to the green in the rear of the town. At 12 o'clock the federal salute was fired, during which a band of music played a variety of elegant, animating and patriotic tunes, which seemed to diffuse universal joy over every countenance and enliven every patriotic heart. After which the military and private citizens seated themselves under a beautiful bower, erected for the purpose, and partook of an elegant dinner prepared for the occasion by Mrs. Galpin. Toasts were drank under the discharge of a corresponding number of cannon. About 4 o'clock the whole company again formed a procession, and after proceeding part of the way to Troy, a military salute was fired

<sup>1</sup> The school-house bell, which was also rung as a fire-alarm, first in 1795.

and the citizens of the two towns separated; Captain Keating's company and the citizens of Lansingburgh returning to the green, where they spent the remainder of the day in mirth and festivity. At sunset the colours were struck and the day closed by another discharge from the artillery. The field was left in perfect harmony, order and decorum, in which alone there seemed to be a general emulation to excel, as also in their patriotic exertions to perpetuate the memory of that august day." An elegant dinner was also partaken of at Jacob's Hotel.

The first publication of the Lansingburgh Gazette<sup>1</sup> made its appearance on Tuesday, September 18, 1798. The newspapers<sup>2</sup> which preceded it were the Northern Centinel and Lansingburgh Advertiser, the Federal Herald, the American Spy and the Northern Budget. Gardiner Tracy was the first publisher of the Gazette.

As early as the year 1802, the question of establishing an Episcopal Church in Lansingburgh was discussed by a number of the leading citizens. But it was not until January 5, 1804, at a meeting in the Academy, that an organization was effected. The officers selected at this meeting were: John Young and David Smith, Wardens; John Rutherford, William Bradley, Stephen Ross, John Walsh, Joseph S. Mabbett, Jonathan Burr, of Lansingburgh, John Stewart and Henry Davis, of Waterford, Vestrymen. The name assumed by the founders was that of Trinity Church of Lansingburgh. This congregation, in connection with St. Paul's in Troy, during this

<sup>1</sup> The following names of persons residing and engaged in business in Lansingburgh from 1798 to 1801, appear in the Gazette for those years: 1798—Merchants, Charles Selden, Joshua Burnham, Elijah Janes, Joseph D. & Roger Selden, Joseph Mabbett, Cuskaden & Rutherford; Druggists, Abiel Bugbey, Russell Forsyth & Co.; Booksellers, Lord & Sherman; manufacturing leather, William Powers; Brewers, George & Mat Gill; Clothing, Eli Judson and Samuel Bon-tecou; Book-binding, John Shaw; Hotel keeper, Ashbel Root, successor to A. Platt. 1799—Merchants, James F. Carpenter, Alfred Richardson, Taylor Fordham, Alexander Walsh. Letters in the postoffice for Simon Averil, Benjamin Armington, Philo Barber, Roswell Bingham, Joseph Burr, Bush & Hoogland, Jean Boune, Thomas Bassell, William Chase, James Fenn, Matthew Finlason, William Fraser, John Gaston, William C. Gooding, Benjamin Gilaspie, Jas. Humphrey, Joseph Huff, David Henry, William Hamilton, Silas Kellogg, Jeremiah Landon, Benjamin Lord, Zebulon Neal, Jedediah Pendigrass, Josiah Parker, Elias Parmelee, Daniel Pine, Keating Rawson, John Rogers, J. B. Regnier, John P. Rensselaer, William Scott, Andrew Smith, John Stilwell, Cornelius Sebring, Alex. Thompson, Peter Van Ness, Lewis Van Clive, Major White, Walter White, Judson Webb. 1800—Merchants, Thomas Wallace, Jonathan Choate, Simeon Johnson; Furniture, Seelye & Skinner; boarding school, Mesdames M. E. & A. Sketchley. Letters in the Postoffice for: Nathan Brownson, John Bull, Jesse Brush, Daniel Champion, Ezra Connuff, Francis Choate, William Chace, Zachariah Garnryck, William Gilliland, Andrew Gilaspie, Aaron B. Hinman, Arthur Hotchkiss, Silas & D. Kellogg, Richard Lane, Jonathan Post, Jeremiah Stillwell, John Smith, Peter Wyckoff.

<sup>2</sup> See page 333 History of the City of Troy.



month, elected Rev. David Butler as Rector.<sup>1</sup> The first building used for worship stood on the north-west corner of John and Market streets. It was built about the year 1806, of wood, costing \$5,000, and had about three hundred sittings.

The opening of the Union Bridge between Waterford and Lansingburgh, early in the month of December, 1804, was celebrated by the citizens of the two villages in a manner becoming its importance. Amid the firing of cannon, a large procession from Lansingburgh crossed the new bridge to Waterford, where a dinner was served at the expense of the directors and partaken of by several dignitaries of the State and many gentlemen of the city and villages in the vicinity. "It is with much pleasure we (Waterford Gazette,) announce the completion of the bridge at this place, which for architectural strength and beauty exceeds, perhaps, anything of the kind in the United States. On examination, it will be found that its symmetry is just in all its parts, which reflects the highest honor on the engineer, Mr. Theodore Burr. And when we behold with what regularity and despatch the plans of the architect have been executed by Mr. Samuel Shelly, under whose immediate superintendence the work has progressed, we conceive no less praise to him is due. While we are contemplating this noble structure, let us descend beneath the waters, and there fixing our minds on its rocky base, gradually emerge from the stream, behold with wonder and admiration, three stately columns, whose strength appears to baffle the destruction of time, and whose magnitude causes the winds to murmur as they pass, and the waves to return in perpetual eddies upon themselves. Here we behold the skill of masonry, exemplified in Mr. James McElroy, under whose direction the pillars arose, and on whom much encomium has justly been bestowed. This bridge is 800 feet in length, and 30 feet in width, comprising four arches, which are supported by three pillars, and the two buttments. The pillars are of stone, cemented with tarras, and strongly bound with iron, being in length from 75 to 85 feet at their base, and of equal length at their surface, of about 75 feet, and at their top 40 feet. Their breadth at their basis being from 20 to 25 feet, and at their tops from 18 to 20 feet. Their height being from 23 to 33 feet, according to the depth of the water, and the greatest altitude of the arches is 18 feet. The bridge is divided into two sepa-

<sup>1</sup> See pages 72, 73 and 74 History of the City of Troy. Rev. David Butler died July 11th, 1842, aged 80, and was buried in Lansingburgh.

rate apartments, which not only adds to its beauty, but much increases its strength, and persons crossing it being obliged to take the right hand apartment will effectually prevent any contention which would otherwise probably result."

The Methodist Church, although not having assumed a regular organization until the year 1827, yet a class had been formed early in the century, and New City included in the Troy Circuit. In 1803, Rev. Laban Clark and Martin Ruter preached in Lansingburgh. The first house of worship was erected in 1810, through the earnest labors of Rev. Joel Ketchum and Elijah Chichester, both of whom had retired from the itineracy. This building which was of wood, was erected on the bank of the river, at the foot of Elizabeth street, and was occupied by the Society about twenty years. At a meeting held July 23, 1827, over which Jacob Heimstreet and Edwin Filley were chosen to preside, the following "Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Lansingburgh," were elected: Ephraim Goss, Jacob Heimstreet, Edwin Filley, Alexander Van Pelt, Jr., I. Thomas Ward, Benjamin Case and Alexander Van Pelt, Sr. On the 15th day of February, 1828, Derick Lane sold to these trustees lot 96, on the southwest corner of North and Queen street, where a church was shortly after erected. Rev. S. D. Ferguson was the first regular pastor officiating in this church.

The first congregation of Baptists, known as the First Baptist Society of Lansingburgh, was formed on the 11th of June, 1803. Daniel Seymour, Aaron B. Hinman, Francis Choate, Nathaniel Jacobs and William Spafford, were the first trustees of the association. The first church erected by the Society was a wooden building on the corner of North and John streets. September 6th, 1804, the congregation purchased of Levinus Lansing the lots numbers 25 and 26 in the third division of Lansingburgh, which, on the 23d of May, 1820, were purchased by the trustees of the Lansingburgh Academy. The Society, on the first of August, 1844, purchased of John Kennedy and wife, ground on the north-west corner of Congress and Richard street, whereon they erected a brick church edifice, afterwards known as the Olivet Church. A reorganization of the Society occurred on the 28th of July, 1858, with twenty-eight members. On the 27th of August, 1860, the following persons were elected as trustees of the John Street Baptist Church: Thomas W. Brooks, Jabez Howlet, J. G. Scollay, Warren Alger and William W. Watts. The property formerly belonging to the Second Presbyte-

rian Church, on the east side of John street, between Richard and Elizabeth streets, was purchased, which is still held by this congregation. Of the John Street Baptist Church Rev. A. B. Whipple was the first pastor.

A number of the colored people of the village also organized themselves into a religious association, on the 12th of August, 1843, under the name of the Methodist Zion Church of Lansingburgh. The following persons were elected the first trustees: John I. W. Jemison, Jacob Brown, James Hall, Frisby Way and Jehu Brown. This body afterwards worshipped in the house now known as No. 549 Whipple Avenue.

Sometime previous to the war of 1812, an Artillery Company had been organized, of which Reuben King was Captain and Caleb Allen, Lieutenant. During the struggle it was ordered to Ogdensburgh, where it remained a short time and then returned home. Again a draft was ordered for the 155th Regiment, Gen. Gilbert Eddy, of Pittstown, commanding, which embraced every fourth man in this militia organization. The drafted men marched as far as Granville, Vt., where information was received of the termination of hostilities, and the regiment was dismissed from active service. While the campaign continued, several British officers were quartered on parole with Capt. Oakley, who then resided on Hoosick street.

On the reception of intelligence of the ratification of the treaty of peace, the event was celebrated with a procession and a grand illumination. A huge bonfire blazed upon Diamond Rock, a balloon decorated with flags was sent off, and a splendid supper served by Robert Wands at the Village hotel.

The most memorable event which occurred at this time, in which the citizens took a prominent part, was the presentation of an elegant service of plate to the distinguished hero of Lake Champlain, Commodore T. Macdonough, on Saturday, the 8th of April, 1815. Having arrived in the village on his way to Washington, a committee attended by a large concourse of the inhabitants, presented him with a pair of large and handsome pitchers and twelve goblets. The pitchers were decorated with impressions of oaken wreaths and other ornamental devices, and bore the following inscriptions: On one side, "Commodore T. Macdonough, with an inferior force, captured the British squadron on Lake Champlain, Sept. 11, 1814." On the other, "Presented by the citizens of Lansingburgh to the

Hero of Lake Champlain." On the goblets, "The citizens of Lansingburgh to Commodore Macdonough." To the committee, consisting of James Hickok, David Smith, Elias Parmelee, John Topping, Elijah Janes, Gardiner Tracy, James Adams and James Reid, the Commodore returned the following written reply :

" Gentlemen—It is with much pleasure and satisfaction I receive the several pieces of plate which you, on behalf of the citizens of Lansingburgh, have been pleased to present me. This handsome testimonial of your approbation of my services on Lake Champlain is highly valued, and shall be carefully preserved among other precious and flattering presents with which my countrymen have honored me. Permit me to reciprocate your congratulations on the return of peace to our country. With sentiments of the highest respect and esteem,

" I am, gentlemen,

" Your obedient servant,

" T. MACDONOUGH."

The Bank of Lansingburgh was incorporated March 19th, 1813, and began business as provided by the charter in the compact part of the village, in a building No. 531 State street, (then King street,) at present occupied as a residence by Mrs. John G. McMurray. The first Board of Directors were : Elijah Janes, Shubael Gorham, Abraham C. Lansing, James Dennison, Gardiner Tracy, James Hickok, James Adams, Jonathan Burr, Timothy Leonard, Silvanus J. Penniman, Elias Parmelee, John Stewart, Calvin Barker, James Dougrey and Asa Burt. Elijah Janes was chosen President, and James Reid, Cashier. The amount of capital as authorized by the act was \$200,000, of which \$60,000 was paid in at the commencement of the Bank's transacting business. In 1814 it was increased to \$66,000, and in 1816 to \$72,000. By an act of the Legislature passed February 24, 1832, the charter was renewed to July 1, 1855, and the capital was increased to \$120,000. At its expiration, the Bank was reorganized under the General Banking law of 1838. April 1, 1856, the amount of capital was increased to \$150,000. On the 20th of June, 1866, its name was changed to the National Bank of Lansingburgh, but on the 9th of March, 1869, it was converted back to a State bank, and since that time has been known as the Bank of Lansingburgh, with a capital of \$150,000. The bank building is on the north-west corner of State and Richard streets. Unfortunately, this long-prosperous institution, by an im-



poverishing depreciation of the value of its assets, was on the 19th of March, 1877, compelled to discontinue its business relations with the public. Its last officers were: Horace W. Day, President; Leonard J. Abbott, Vice President; Alexander Walsh, Cashier; E. H. Leonard, Teller; Wm. C. Groesbeck, Book-keeper. Directors, Edward H. Leonard, Whitman Joslin, Joseph Lawton, Leonard J. Abbott, Francis Pruyn, Horace W. Day, and William V. V. Reynolds. During its long career of usefulness, a period of 64 years, the bank has had seven Presidents, five Vice Presidents, three Cashiers, ten Tellers and nine Book-keepers.

The Lansingburgh Academy was chartered February 8, 1796. The school building was erected about midway between Hoosick and Lansing streets, west of the alley, and fronting toward the Green. In the year 1804, Rev. Samuel Blatchford, having accepted the pastorate of the United Presbyterian Churches of Lansingburgh and Waterford, was also elected to the position of Principal of the Academy. Under his judicious management, the institution was raised to a high plane of usefulness. The Trustees of the Academy, May 23, 1820, purchased from the Baptist Society, lots 25 and 26, on the north-west corner of John and North streets, where the present commodious school building was erected. The Academy, in its long career of usefulness has been of much local benefit to the place, through the wise management of its different officers. Its present efficient Principal is C. T. R. Smith. Rev. A. M. Beveridge is President, and Horace W. Day, Secretary and Treasurer of the institution.

Hiram Lodge having ceased to exist, a new masonic organization succeeded it. In September, 1822, a dispensation was granted to Benjamin Horr, W. M.; Chauncey Ives, S. W.; Nathan Morey, J. W.; and on the 26th of that month the first meeting was held. The warrant of Phoenix Lodge of F. A. M., No. 361, was dated June 23, 1823. The first election occurred on the 11th of December, 1823, and the following persons were elected officers: B. W. Horr, W. M.; Chauncey Ives, S. W.; Nathan Morey, J. W.; Worcester Brookins, Treasurer; S. H. Mulford, Secretary; Alvan Hawley, S. D.; Ephraim Goss, J. D.; Edwin Filley and E. Ryan, Stewards, and Chauncey Ives, 2d, Tyler. The bitter feeling manifested in politics against the masonic bodies in the United States, led the members of Phoenix Lodge, on the 6th of January, 1836, to surrender their charter, but two years after, the Grand Master was petitioned, and the Lodge

re-organized. On the 7th of June, 1839, the new number 58 was given to the Lodge, and on the 14th of the same month, the first meeting was held.

The completion of the State Dam and sloop lock was thus referred to in a newspaper respecting that event: "On Wednesday, (Sept. 10th, 1823) the great lock just above the city (Troy) was opened for the passage of sloops. The ceremonies, arranged for the occasion by a committee from Lansingburgh and Waterford, commenced at about 10 o'clock, A. M., according to appointment. A little after nine, the steamboat *Fire-Fly* from Albany, with a large party of ladies and gentlemen on board, was seen stemming the current past Troy, and making her way toward the scene of operations. Two uniformed companies of militia from Lansingburgh and Waterford were drawn up on the side of the lock, and a little past 10, the first sloop, the *Royal Oak* passed through, on board of which were Canal Commissioners Clinton and Young, the late Chancellor of the State, a number of Senators, and the Rev. Clergymen of Lansingburgh and Waterford. As the sloop passed out of the lock, the martial music played a salute, which was seconded by a piece of artillery stationed on shore, and by the shouts of a large concourse of people. Two more sloops followed, succeeded by the *Fire-fly*."

In the *Gazetteer of the State of New York*, edited by Horatio Gates Spafford, LL. D., 1824, the following particulars appear regarding the village of Lansingburgh: "It is regularly laid out in blocks or oblong squares, 400 by 260 feet, bounded by capacious streets in right lines, and is two miles long and a half mile wide. There is a bank with a capital of \$220,000, and a handsome banking house; 5 churches; a flourishing academy, occupying two academical buildings, with about 200 students. The whole number of houses and stores, including the public buildings, 330; population of the village, 1,650. Upwards of 8,000 beeves were slaughtered and packed here during the last year, and it is acknowledged that as a pork market this town does more business than any other on the Hudson, north of the city of New York. There are two extensive breweries, which sold 6,000 barrels of ale last year. There are large tanneries also, and nail works, and a brush manufactory,<sup>1</sup> that produces about 8 to 12,000 dollars a year. It has a very res-

<sup>1</sup> The Brushmaking business was begun by William McMurray, in the upper part of the village, opposite the store of S. J. Penniman, in October, 1818.

pectable printing establishment, a weekly newspaper<sup>1</sup> and some book stores. I suppose I must also mention Batestown, half-way between Troy and Lansingburgh, for it has a tavern,<sup>2</sup> and, if I mistake not, a few shops."

The first number of the Rensselaer County Gazette was issued on Tuesday, May 2, 1826. It succeeded the Lansingburgh Gazette, and was published by J. C. and J. Young.

The first Universalist Society was formed on the 15th of December, 1832, at the house of G. F. Holmes. The Trustees, Reuben Field, John M. Caswell, Aaron Learned and Christopher Van Pelt, on May 13, 1834, leased lots 143 and 144, in the first division of the village, on the south-west corner of John and North streets, whereon was erected a small wooden building. The association however did not prosper, and the property finally passed to the ownership of St. John's Roman Catholic Church.

This latter congregation was organized about 1841, by Revs. Hogan, Coyle and other visiting priests. On June 5th, 1842, Keating Rawson, John Higgins, James B. Smith, James Halligan, George T. Gillespie, Barnet Evers, John Dooley, John Driscoll and Daniel Murray were elected Trustees. The church was dedicated in 1844, by the Right Rev. John McCloskey, D. D. St. Augustine's Church was erected in 1864, on lot 139, on the east side of John street, between Market and Elizabeth streets, at a cost of \$40,000. This church was dedicated on the 6th of May, 1866, by the Right Rev. J. J. Conroy, D. D., Bishop of Albany. The first officiating priest was the Very Rev. Thomas Galberry, O. S. A.

For the "gratuitous education and instruction of poor children," the St. Augustine Free Institute of Lansingburgh was established. The incorporators of the school, as they appear in the instrument dated Dec. 13, 1869, were Rev. Thomas Galberry, Michael J. Collins, Edward A. Dailey, Mary Sullivan and Ellen Wood. A suitable school building, large and well furnished, replaced the old structure on the corner of John and North streets, which at present is known as St. Augustine's Free Institute. It is in charge of the Sisters of St. Joseph, Mother Camillus, Superioress.

A Second Presbyterian Church was organized on the 24th of June, 1835, under the name of the First Free Presbyterian Society of Lansingburgh. At a meeting for this purpose held at the house

<sup>1</sup> The Lansingburgh Gazette, Tracy & Bliss, proprietors.

<sup>2</sup> Bull's Head, kept by William Bates.

of Nathan Stratton, William Van Vleck, Jonathan Wickware, Nathan Stratton, Lemuel Kennedy, William McMurray and Chauncey Ives were chosen trustees of the new body. Shortly afterward, this congregation erected a brick church on the east side of John street, between Richard and Elizabeth streets, which is at present occupied by the John street Baptist congregation. Rev. Samuel P. Spear was the first pastor of the church, and during his ministry, the membership changed the name of the organization to that of the Second Presbyterian Church of Lansingburgh. On the 17th of May, 1861,—the congregation in the meantime having re-organized under the title of the Olivet Church, and elected the following persons trustees: David Judson, John W. Bates, Maurice S. Van Buskirk, John N. Miter, Edward P. Pickett and Seth P. Welch,—purchased the property formerly owned by the Baptist congregation on the north-west corner of Congress and Richard streets, and occupied the brick building which the latter had erected as a house of worship. In June, 1874, Rev. George P. Tyler, D. D., who had been serving the church very acceptably, resigned his charge, and since that time the congregation has been without a pastor. The Society has recently erected a chapel on the north-west corner of Congress and Clinton streets.

The State Gazetteer, published by Thomas F. Gordon in 1836, thus refers to Lansingburgh: "The village contains 2 Presbyterian, 1 Baptist, 1 Methodist, 1 Episcopal, and 1 Universalist, churches; an academy in high repute, 6 select, and 1 district, schools, several public libraries, a printing office whence issues the Lansingburgh Gazette; 4 public houses, 6 general wholesale, and some forty retail stores; and the following manufactories, 2 extensively engaged in making oil-cloth for carpets, &c., 1 for brushes and bellows, surpassing it is said in quantity and quality any other in the world, 1 of tin, 1 of guns and rifles, much employed; 2 breweries with malt houses on a large scale, 3 independent maltsteries, competent to make 60,000 bushels of malt per annum, a grist mill driven by water and another by steam, factories for making machine cards, paints, glue, leather, ropes, nails, stoneware, and brass castings; a bank with \$120,000 capital; several extensive slaughtering and packing houses, one of which puts up 16,000 barrels of meat annually; and about 500 dwellings, most of which are neat and commodious, and some of them elegant. This is a place of much business, commercial and manufacturing."



An extensive fire, occurring on Sunday, the 9th day of July, 1843, was thus described by the Lansingburgh Gazette of the 10th :

“Our village was yesterday visited by the severest disaster which has ever befallen us. Nearly two whole blocks of the heart of the village are in ruins. Between thirty and forty buildings are destroyed, among them the office of the Gazette, and it is through the politeness of Mr. Stevenson, of the Troy Whig, who has tendered us the necessary facilities, that we are enabled to issue this extra.

“The fire originated in the stables of the Rensselaer House, about four o'clock, P. M., and as the buildings which immediately came within its reach were of the most combustible nature, and a fresh breeze springing up about the time the fire was discovered, the flames spread with astonishing rapidity. For a long time it seemed as if the whole town was lost. Messengers were immediately dispatched to Troy for assistance, where the alarm was given, and the several fire companies of that city, with many other of their citizens, came promptly to our relief, rendering the most important services. The fire companies of Waterford and Cohoes, too, were on the ground with their characteristic promptness.

“The blocks burnt are those between State street and Congress street, and Elizabeth street and Grove street.”

The following persons were the sufferers: On State street—Wm. R. Barton, market; John Albrow, store, owned by—Groesbeck; C. L. Gaston, S. W. Goodwin, saddlery; Rensselaer House, J. Lamb; L. Ransom, barber shop; Mrs. P. Barton, house and store; Luther Bliss, book store; Lansingburgh Gazette office, E. A. Barber, editor and proprietor; T. Mills, confectionery, owned by Miss Warner; Hoffman's looking-glass factory; J. G. Sweet, grocery. On Congress street—David Fancher, cooper shop; Mrs. E. Parmelee, dwelling, owned by H. & E. R. Parmelee; ditto, a carpenter shop; —Wright, two dwelling houses, occupied by J. F. Parmelee; Miss Esmond, house, owned by B. G. Hathway; G. W. Hart and W. Reardon, 2 dwellings, owned by J. Lockwood. On Richard street, Wright's candle factory; H. Parmelee's ditto. On Elizabeth street, N. Adams, livery stable. On State street, the following buildings were partially injured: Geo. McAuley, dwelling; Mrs. Mosher, 2 stores; Mr. J. Fox, dwelling and bakery.

A second fire, discovered at 10½ o'clock, Sunday evening, July 23d, in Jacocks' barn, destroyed twelve buildings on State street, between Richard and Elizabeth streets; dwelling and saddler shop

of N. Jacocks; tailor shop of George Tate, building owned by John Gaston; law office of C. C. Parmelee; hat store and residence of S. Noble; residence of J. Morris, the building owned by E. J. Willett; barber shop of Leonard Ransom, owned by E. J. Willett; hat store and dwelling of Anthony Lamott; a wooden building belonging to Andrew Follett; hat store and dwelling of S. B. Comstock; E. J. Willett & Son, boot and shoe store, Masonic Lodge, 3d floor, property of E. J. Willett; 3 story brick building, occupied by Fake, Warren & Co., grocers and liquor dealers, owned by E. J. Willett; a warehouse do; a barn, Andrew Follett.

At the annual firemen's parade and inspection on the 15th of October, 1857, the following companies appeared in line: Franklin Hook and Ladder Company No. 1, Lafayette Engine Co. No. 3, Washington Engine Co. No. 4, Columbia Engine Co. No. 5, Washington Volunteer Hose Co., old Engine No. 1.

Under an act of the Legislature passed April 18, 1838, the Rensselaer County Bank was established in Lansingburgh January 1st, 1853. The amount of capital stock was \$200,000, consisting of 4,000 shares at \$50 each. John S. Fake was the first President elected by the directors. The latter were James Reid, John S. Fake, Alson D. Hull, Henry A. Mercer, James I. Adams, Edward Tracy, Jacob Fake, Anson Groesbeck, George McAuley, John G. McMurray, David H. Flack, Alpheus Warren, William McKie, James H. Jones, Jonathan Hoag, Nathan Gifford, Christopher Snyder, Peter Stover, Isaac McConihe, Jr., Thomas D. Beadle, Daniel Fish, John R. Haner, Bedford Filkin, Jacob Y. Kipp, J. Harris. In June, 1865, it was converted into a National Bank, but in 1871 it took its former title, On the 13th of July, 1872, it filed its notice of discontinuance and ceased to exist.

The Lansingburgh Democrat was first published in December, 1838, by William J. Lamb, who continued its publication until his death in 1859. In April, 1861, it was purchased by Young & Robinson, and changed to the New Advertiser, which was issued only a few months, when its publication ceased.

At the outbreak of the late rebellion, the village of Lansingburgh sent forth her citizens and sons to protect the nation's flag, with the same honorable pride as the forefathers of the hamlet had done at the beginning of the revolutionary war. The first full company formed, was organized for the 30th Regiment, N. Y. S. Volunteers, Colonel Edward Frisby, commanding. It was mustered in as Co.

A; Samuel King, captain; John H. Campbell, lieutenant, and Francis Dargen, ensign. Captain King and Ensign Dargen were both killed at the first battle of Bull Run, as were also five privates of the same company. Lieutenant Campbell received the commission of captain, and on the company's return home, June 1, 1863, at the expiration of its two years of service, it was received with a grand ovation. At the second battle of Bull Run, Chauncey F. Vandeusen was killed, who, with Josiah E. West and Frederick Weaver, had joined Company A, 22d Regiment N. Y. S. Volunteers, Col. Walter Phelps, Jr., commanding. This regiment's term of service was for two years from the 6th of June, 1861. Company K, 169th Regiment, was raised by Captain Daniel Ferguson and 2d Lieutenant E. R. Smith, and was placed under the regimental command of Col. Clarence Buel. Captain Ferguson lost his life at the explosion of the mine at Fort Fisher. The time of service of this command was for three years from October 6, 1862. Captain Chas. S. Holmes and 1st Lieutenant Cornelius Kelleher also went out with Company C, 192d Reg't N. Y. S. V. for three years or during the war, from March 13, 1865.

The First Free Methodist Church was organized at Whipple Hall, October 15, 1867. Joseph Sherman, Elijah Godell and Thomas Robinson were elected the first Trustees. Rev. Daniel Sinclair had this congregation, together with one at Saratoga, under his charge at its organization. A house of worship was erected in 1867, on Ann street, south of Elizabeth street, which was dedicated November 15th of that year. Rev. George E. Ferrin was the first pastor of this Society.

Among the old residents of the village of Lansingburgh, the following named individuals remain to hand down the traditions of their birth-place, and to review the many changes that have transpired within the century: Charles H. Bontecou, born January 6th, 1798; Nicholas Weaver, December 12th, 1798; Hamlet Bontecou, December 29th, 1799, and Alexander Willson, January 30th, 1800.

Abraham Jacob Lansingh had three sons, namely: Jacob A. Lansingh, who died February 25th, 1801, aged 59 years; Cornelius Lansingh,<sup>1</sup> died April 23, 1842, aged 90 years; and Levinus Lansingh,<sup>2</sup> died — 1837. Charles J. Lansing, counselor at law, son of

<sup>1</sup> Cornelius Lansingh's homestead was where now is the residence of E. D. Beach, known as the Abbey property. (See page 221, History of the City of Troy.)

<sup>2</sup> Levinus Lansingh's residence was the building now the home of David Judson, No. 3 Grove street, corner of River street.

Cornelius Lansingh, having preserved all of the most important papers of the family of the village, has a most valuable collection of old and rare documents and manuscripts relating to the early history of Lansingburgh.

Only a few of the old buildings, landmarks of the past, are yet standing, and these are easily recognized by their quaint and ancient appearance. Where most of the first houses were erected can be established by comparing the numbers in the foot-note subjoined and the present large map of the city, made by John Bevan in 1872. The city of Lansingburgh, (1771) comprised that portion of the present village which is included between North and South streets, East street and the river.<sup>1</sup>

1 A list of the names of the first purchasers of lots in the first division, (the city of Lansingburgh) bounded north by North street, east by East street, south by South street, and west by the Hudson river. Alphebetically arranged, with dates of sale as in the original paper. The number of the lots will be found on any map of Lansingburgh.

NAME.	WHEN SOLD.	NUMBER OF LOT.
William Adams,.....	—	101
James Abeel,.....	June 20, 1772,.....	3, 153, 154
Evert Bancker,.....	June 11, 1771,.....	113
Flores Bancker,....	June 8, 1771,.....	169 to 183, 185, 186, 187 to 192, and Water Lot 25.
John Barber,.....	January 26, 1771,.....	240
Ab'm Blaau,.....	October 25, 1770,.....	5, 211
Waldron Blaau,.....	June, 1771,.....	5, 184
James Boggs, Jr.,.....	November 18, 1788,.....	231, 232
Jonathan Brewer,.....	August 24, 1771,.....	66, 212
Ab'm Brinkerhoof, .....	June 22, 1772,.....	159, 160
Joshua Burnham,.....	—	91
James Caldwell,.....	—	29, 30
Caleb Carr,.....	June 10, 1786,.....	37
Joy Chambers,....	March 9, 1784,.....	43
Jeremiah Comstock,.....	—	84
William Conklin,.....	June 28, 1777,.....	9, 10
Ebenezer Cooley,.....	March 11, 1788,.....	Water Lot 19
Cornelius Cooper,.....	October 30, 1780,.....	71, 72
Peter Curtinus,.....	June 11, 1771,.....	8
Volkart Dawson,.....	February 3, 1773.....	205
Barnet De Clyn,.....	July 23, 1772,.....	12
John Dunbar,.....	March 9, 1770,.....	81, 82, 152
Benjamin French,.....	March 20, 1770,.....	17, 18
Eldart Funda,.....	December 3, 1771,.....	50
John D. Funda,.....	December 27, 1771,.....	97 to 99
Peter Goewy,.....	February 21, 1775,.....	100
Amos Graves,.....	November 25, 1774.....	38, 39
Samuel Halstead,.....	December 10, 1770.....	102
Anne Hamersley,....	March 30, 1771,.....	225, 233
Thomas Hiatt,.....	July 22, 1772,.....	60
Ezra Hitchcock,.....	June 16, 1783,.....	40
Lyman Hitchcock,.....	May 3, 1780,.....	64
Peter Hogle,.....	—	168
Moses Holt,.....	September 20, 1776,.....	24



The industrial interests of Lansingburgh at present include two large and extensive floor oil cloth factories, a half score of brush manufactories, several capacious malthouses, two excellent cracker baking establishments, a first-class brewery, and a leading scale manufactory and foundry. The first oil cloths were made in Lansingburgh as early as the year 1817, by Wm. Powers, who on the 17th of June of that year advertised this particular branch of handicraft. The present firm of Deborah Powers & Sons represent the enterprise of the founder of the business, which has secured a very large and prosperous trade. Besides the works in Lansingburgh, the firm has a manufactory at Newburgh, and a warehouse in New York city. R. C. Haskell, the proprietor of the Whipple oil cloth factory established about thirty-two years ago, has acquired a very extended reputation for his manufactured goods. Lansingburgh has assumed a very prominent position in the manufacture

NAME.	WHEN SOLD.	NUMBER OF LOT.
Hoogland & Seymour,	March 17, 1785,	47, 48
Nathaniel Jacobs,	November 15, 1787,	Water Lot 18
Ignis Kipp,	July 19, 1773,	206
Thomas Knight,	April 28, 1785,	49
Francis Lansingh,	April 24, 1772,	14, half of 15, 261
Franciscus Lansingh,	April 27, 1775,	25, 26, 44, 45
Hendrick Lansingh,	April 24, 1772,	16
Isaac Lansingh,	October 26, 1770,	65
Isaac H. Lansingh,	December 30, 1771,	27, 51
Jacob A. Lansingh,	October 7, 1770,	13, 216
Levinus Lansingh,	January 14, 1790,	115
Hugh McCarty,	—	116
Alex. McClean,	June 18, 1771,	7, 257
Mayekie McCoy,	December 27, 1771,	213
William McGill,	April 9th, 1777,	32
Patrick McNiff,	February 8, 1777,	35
James McMurray,	—	70
Charles Meal,	June 8, 1771,	11
James Moran,	November 13, 1772,	59
Agnes Murray,	September 23, 1786,	69
William Nichols,	February 5, 1777,	33
Ab'm Nilson,	July 21, 1772,	263, 264
Aaron Noble,	—	92
Joseph Norris,	October 22, 1773,	58
Abm. J. Ouderkerk,	March 6, 1775,	121
Platt & Williams,	April 24, 1786,	Water Lot 17
Charles Reed,	February 26, 1772,	236
Maria Rosa,	March 7, 1786,	20
Anthony Rutgers,	June 8, 1771,	105, 129
School Lots,	—	108, 109, 132, 133
William Scott,	—	134, 135, 136
Cornelius S. Sebring,	July 22, 1772,	96
Jonathan Sewers,	February 22, 1772,	209, 210
John Skiffington,	April 7, 1774,	127
Patrick Smith,	June 3, 1774,	19

of various kinds and styles of brushes. The different makers enjoy a personal reputation for the character of their brushes, and by close and careful attention to each article manufactured, constantly produce saleable goods. The leading makers are J. G. McMurray & Co., Thomas Curran, E. & C. Wood, George Scott, Peter B. King, J. C. Pushee & Co., Comeskey Bros., James McQuide, and Flynn Bros. The firm of Edward Tracy & Co., maltsters, have been long established in business, and possess very large and spacious buildings for the production of malt. The steam cracker manufactory of Joseph Fox, established in 1806 by his father, is also giving much importance to the business of Lansingburgh. The large cracker bakery of R. M. De Freest is also doing an extensive business. The brewery of Samuel Bolton & Sons, and the scale works and foundry of Southwick & Arnold also add to the growing manufacturing interests of the place.

What shall be the future of Lansingburgh and the cities and villages which so closely adjoin each other, in the vicinity of the confluence of the Mohawk and Hudson rivers, is for future historians to record. Shall these contiguous places grow into a great and important center of manufactures, of commerce and trade? Shall

NAME.	WHEN SOLD.	NUMBER OF LOT.
Smith & Whitney,	—	90
Benjamin Snyder,	July 28, 1786,	275
Elinor Taylor, ...	May 25, 1770,	1, 2
Barnt Ten Eyck,	—	140
John Tibbit,	October 27, 1780,	41, 42
John Tilman,	August 8, 1774,	56
Margret Tilman, ...	August 8, 1774,	55
James Thompson,	April 15, 1778,	68
Robert Thompson,	December 21,	73 to 75
Hendrick Van Arnam,	—	76
John Van Cortland,	November 1, 1785,	85, 86
Cornelius Vandeburgh,	September 10, 1786,	193, 194
John Van Rensselaer,	June 1, 1786	16 Water Lot
James Van Varick,	July 22, 1772,	89
Ab'm K. Van Vleck,	January 31, 1772,	21, 22, 23, 46, with Water Lots 21 to 23
Gerrit and Catharine Van Wie,	August 27, 1773,	130, 131
Aaron Ward,	July 17, 1786,	67
Ralph Watson,	September 14, 1773,	88
Frederick Weaver,	—	53, 54
Peter Weaver,	December 9, 1774,	79, 80
Jonathan Wickwire,	December 9, 1770,	31
John D. Witt,	July, 1772,	237
Jonathan Wood,	—	114
Wynkoop & Ten Eyck,	May 3, 1775,	235
Robert Yates,	March 7, 1770,	6
Peter W. Yates,	—	34, 52, 104
Joseph Young,	April 6, 1775,	123, 124

ships glide into their docks laden with freights from the West, the North and the Great Lakes? Who can divine the hidden things which the enterprise, the wealth, and the education in the new century of American Independence will bring into existence, to mark the country's progress with greater honors and monumental glories?

## THE CHURCHES OF LANSINGBURGH.

WITH DATE OF ORGANIZATION, LOCATION, DEDICATION AND FIRST PASTORS.

NAMES AND DENOMINATION.	DATE OF ORGANIZATION.	WHERE ORIGINALLY BUILT.	WHEN DEDICATED.	NAME OF FIRST PASTOR.
The Protestant Reformed Dutch Church,.....	Sept. 25, 1784,	No. 465 State street,	.....	Rev. S. B. Lupton.
First Presbyterian Church,....	Aug. 9, 1792,	North end of the Green,	June 22, 1794,	Rev. Jonas Coe, D. D.
Second Presbyterian Church,...	June 24, 1835,	East side John St., ab. Elizabeth St.*	.....	Rev. Samuel P. Spear.
Trinity Church (Episcopal)†,...	Jan. 5, 1804,	Corner of John and Market sts.	.....	Rev. David Butler, D. D.
Methodist Episcopal Church,...	1827,	Near the river, foot of Elizabeth street.	.....	Rev. S. D. Ferguson.
Free Methodist Church, .....	1866,	Ann St., south of Elizabeth,	Nov. 15, 1867,	Rev. George E. Ferrin.
Universalist Church,.....	About 1833,	Corner of North and John streets,	.....	Rev. Charles Woodhouse.
St. John Baptist Church, (Roman Catholic).....	About 1841,	Corner of North and John streets,	1844,	{ The same congregation. Very Rev. Thomas Galberry, O. S. A.
St. Augustine's Church, (Roman Catholic).....	About 1841,	Corner of John and Market streets,	May 6, 1866,	
John St. Baptist Church,.....	July 28, 1858,†	.....	.....	Rev. A. B. Whipple.

## PRESENT LOCATION, PASTORS, MEMBERSHIP, COST, &amp;c.

NAMES AND DENOMINATIONS.	PRESENT EDIFICE ERECTED.	COST.	SEATING CAPACITY.	NAME OF PRESENT PASTOR.	PRESENT NO. OF MEMBR.	Officers & Teachers in Sunday School.	PRESENT NO. OF SCHOLRS
First Presbyterian,.....	1844-45,	.....	.....	Rev. A. M. Beveridge,	431	...	500§
Second " (Olivet).....	1844,	.....	.....	.....	....	....	....
Trinity (Episcopal).....	1869-70,	\$40,000	450	Rev. Byron J. Hall,	175	25	200
Methodist Episcopal,.....	1849,	35,000	600	Rev. M. D. Jump,	464	39	328
Free Methodist,.....	1867,	.....	150	Rev. William Clark,	13	....	....
St. Augustine's (Rom. Catholic)	1864-65,	40,000	1000	Rev. M. J. Collins, O. S. A.	2000	14	350
John St. Baptist,.....	.....	.....	.....	Rev. C. W. Ray, (supply.)	125	18	130

\* Church edifice sold to John Street Baptists, Aug. 20, 1860. † Burned Dec. 23, 1868. ‡ First Society, June 11, 1803. § Includes the Bethany Sunday School.



## PASTORS OF THE CHURCHES

### FROM THEIR ORGANIZATION TO THE PRESENT TIME.

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THE PROTESTANT REFORMED DUTCH CHURCH.—Rev. Brandt Schuyler Lupton, Nov. 6, 1788, to 1792.

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.—Rev. Jonas Coe, D. D., June 25, 1793, to 1804; Rev. Samuel Blatchford, D. D., July 19, 1804, to March 17, 1828; Rev. Isaac McIlvaine, Oct. 2, 1828, to 1830; Rev. John W. McCullough, Sept. 8, 1830, to 1832; Rev. Henry Benedict, Nov. 6, 1834, to 1836; Rev. Philo F. Phelps, 1836 to 1839; Rev. John H. Symms, October, 1840, to August 24, 1843; Rev. Villeroy D. Reed, D. D., July 9, 1844, to 1858; Rev. A. M. Beveridge, third Sabbath of July, 1858, to the present time.

TRINITY (EPISCOPAL) CHURCH.—Rev. David Butler, D. D., from January 9, 1806 to 1814; Rev. Parker Adams, 4 years; Rev. George Upfold, to 1818; Rev. Benjamin Dorr, to May 18, 1829; Rev. P. L. Whipple, 1829 to 1840; Rev. A. T. Twing, 1840 to 1863; Rev. Wm. H. Cook, 1864 to 1867; Rev. Byron J. Hall, Dec. 16, 1867, to present time.

ST. JOHN BAPTIST (ROMAN CATHOLIC) CHURCH.—Revs. Hogan, Coyle, Farley, Quigley, Falvey and Crane.

ST. AUGUSTINE'S (ROMAN CATHOLIC) CHURCH.—Rev. S. Galberry, 5 years; Rev. J. H. Dever, 6 years; Rev. M. J. Collins, 1876.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.—Rev. S. D. Ferguson, 1827; Rev. Seymour Landon, 1829; Rev. Timothy Benedict, 1830; Rev. Cyrus Prindle, 1831; Rev. Tobias Spicer, 1833; Rev. Chas. P. Clarke, 1834; Rev. A. M. Osbon, 1835; Rev. S. Merritt Bates, 1836; Rev. James Caughey, 1837; Rev. A. M. Osbon, 1838; Rev. J. Alley, 1839; Rev. W. Bullard, 1840; Rev. J. Frazer, 1841; Rev. O. Emerson, 1842; Rev. C. Devol, 1844; Rev. Wm. Griffin, 1846; Rev. S. Parks, 1848; Rev. B. Hawley, 1850; Rev. H. W. Ransom, 1852; Rev. W. P. Gray, 1854; Rev. D. Starks, 1856; Rev. L. Marshall, 1858; Rev. C. W. Cushing, 1860; Rev. I. G. Bidwell, 1862; Rev. S. McKean, 1864; Rev. W. R. Brown, 1867; Rev. Henry Graham, 1870; Rev. M. B. Mead, 1872; Rev. W. H. Hughes, 1874; Rev. M. D. Jump, 1877.

JOHN STREET BAPTIST CHURCH.—Rev. A. B. Whipple, Revs. Sellick, J. L. Barlow, Merriman, Whipple, Rev. S. B. Gregory, May 1, 1875, to Nov. 5, 1876; Rev. C. W. Ray, (supply) at present.

SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.—Rev. Samuel P. Spear; 1861, Rev. Selden Haines; Rev. George P. Tyler, D. D., to 1874.

UNIVERSALIST CHURCH.—Rev. Charles Woodhouse, Rev. William Bell, Rev. Z. Cook, Rev. Menzes Rayner.

FREE METHODIST CHURCH.—Rev. George E. Ferrin, 1 year; Rev. Olin Owen, 1 year; Rev. William Dickson, 2 years; Rev. William Steegar, 1 year; Rev. David Dempsey, 2 years; Rev. William Clark, from Oct., 1876.

# VILLAGE GOVERNMENT, 1876.

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## BOARD OF TRUSTEES.

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JAMES MCQUIDE, PRESIDENT.

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*First Ward*—William C. Groesbeck, Charles H. Dauchy.

*Second Ward*—Frederick Dargen, Richard M. DeFreest.

*Third Ward*—Francis McCabe, Daniel C. Sippell.

*Fourth Ward*—Rufus S. Munn, Eugene L. Demers.

*Clerk*.—C. W. Witbeck.

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## BOARD OF TRUSTEES, 1877.

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C. H. DAUCHY, PRESIDENT.

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*First Ward*—William King, Joseph Kessler.

*Second Ward*—Henry Wood, Richard M. DeFreest.

*Third Ward*—Robert Harvey, Daniel C. Sippell.

*Fourth Ward*—George V. Gould, Eugene L. Demers.

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John Quinn, Clerk of the Board.

Thomas Rourke, Treasurer.

Hyatt & Comstock, Attorneys.

John C. Pushee, Supervisor.

Henry E. Hawkins, George H. Hearman, Police Justices.

C. H. Dauchy, George B. Filley, David H. Humphrey, Police Commissioners.

Alex. King, Captain of Police.

James C. Comstock, Superintendent of Public Schools.

Samuel Brooks, David H. Humphrey, James H. Weaver, School Trustees.

Postmaster, 1877—G. W. Cornell.

## **FIRE DEPARTMENT.**

FIREMEN'S HALL, MARKET STREET, NEAR RIVER.

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Board of Fire Commissioners: Albert E. Powers, President; Chas. S. Holmes; Treasurer; A. C. Snyder, Secretary.

Officers: Thomas H. Mason, Chief Engineer; John Franklin, Assistant Engineer; John Brooks, Superintendent of the Fire Alarm, and Engineer of the Steamers; Frank Spotten, Assistant; John H. Ingram, Captain of Hose; C. W. Cannon, Captain of Hook and Ladder; Eugene Sippell, 1st Assistant Captain of Hook and Ladder; Charles F. Shumway, 2d Assistant Captain of Hook and Ladder; Louis F. Plamp, Secretary; David Hannah, Jr., Treasurer.

J. E. Whipple Steam Fire Engine Company No. 1, organized June 3, 1864. First officers: John H. Campbell, Captain; William H. Lea, Assistant; C. L. Twing, Secretary; S. K. Hawkins, Treasurer. Number of members at organization, 30. The first engine house was located on the south-west corner of River and Grove streets.

J. Fox Steam Fire Engine Company No. 2. Organized December 29, 1869. First officers: James H. Spotten, Captain; Frederick Weaver, Assistant; George O'Keefe, Secretary; Henry F. Brooks, Treasurer. Number of members at organization, 15. Location of first engine house, east side of State street, near Lansing street.

John S. Fake Hook and Ladder Co. No. 1, organized November 14, 1871. First officers: Thomas Curran, Captain; John F. McFarland, Secretary; E. W. Banker, Treasurer; Number of members when organized, 30. The first building used by the company was situated on the north-east corner of Market and River streets.

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## **ORGANIZATIONS.**

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### **MASONIC LODGES.**

Phoenix Lodge, No. 58, Masonic Hall, 634 State street. Peter A. Brewster, W. M.; Charles D. Clark, S. W.; Robert Bryant, J. W.; Eugene Hyatt, Treasurer; William Jordan, Secretary; James Gillespie, S. D.; Frederick H. Minkler, J. D.; John A. Lee, Wm. Ladlie, M. of C.; Thomas Graham, Andrew McMurray, Stewards;

William A. Flack, Chaplain; Richard A. Derrick, Marshal; Eugene Hyatt, M. L. Fancher, D. P. Cheesbrough, Trustees.

Jerusalem Lodge, No. 355, Masonic Hall, 634 State street. Daniel C. Sippell, W. M.; John H. Franklin, S. W.; Charles Sessagrants, J. W.; Felix Fountain, Treasurer; Henry E. Hawkins, Secretary; George E. Shumway, S. D.; Chauncey Smith, J. D.; Charles W. Cannon, David Shannon, M. of C.; H. M. Cropsey, Geo. H. Allen, Stewards; Samuel Whiley, Chaplain; W. H. Whiley, Organist, W. H. Shumway, Marshal; N. Remington, Tiler; Samuel Whiley, J. E. West, John B. Icke, Trustees.

Phoenix Chapter, No. 133. Eugene A. Van Pelt, High Priest; John M. Chambers, King; Daniel E. Sippell, Scribe; John G. O'Bryan, Treasurer; Eugene Hyatt, Secretary; Wm. H. Shumway, Capt. H.; Charles E. Shumway, P. S.; Arthur Cobden, R. A. C.; Arnold Grillo, M. 3d V.; Fred. Weaver, M. 2d V.; John A. Lee, M. 1st V.; Edward A. Skillman, Chaplain; D. K. Cleary, Organist; N. Remington, Tiler; Alex. Gillespie, W. H. Shumway, Ed. A. Skillman, Trustees.

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### INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD FELLOWS.

Bethlehem Rebecca Degree Lodge No. 49. McMurray Hall. Samuel Lee, N. G.

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### TEMPERANCE SOCIETIES.

Diamond Rock Temple of Honor No. 35. McMurray Hall.

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### BOAT CLUBS.

The Sans Souci Club, organized October 12, 1867; incorporated October 25, 1875. First officers: S. P. Welch, President; W. C. Groesbeck, Secretary; E. H. Leonard, Treasurer. Present officers: Wm. M. Lea, President; E. H. Leonard, Secretary and Treasurer; Charles S. Holmes, Commodore; M. L. Filley, Jr., Thos. H. Mason, Directors. Club House, River, cor. Market street.

Filley Boat Club.—W. S. Flack, President; Joseph McQuide, Secretary and Treasurer; Wm. Lee Church, Captain.

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### GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC.

Post Dargen, No. 42. Wm. J. Quinn, Senior Vice Commander.

**SCHOOLS.**

Lansingburgh Academy.—Rev. A. M. Beveridge, President; H. W. Day, Secretary and Treasurer; C. T. R. Smith, Principal.

St. Augustine's Free Institute, under the charge of the Sisters of St. Joseph. Mother Camillus, Superioress.

**BANK OF D. POWERS & SONS.**

Established March 20, 1877. Deborah Powers, Albert E. Powers, Nathaniel B. Powers, sole partners.

**CENSUS OF LANSINGBURGH,**

FROM 1771 TO 1875.

1770-- 50	1815—1,800	1850—5,752
1780— 400	1820—2,035	1855—5,700
1790— 500	1825—2,423	1860—5,577
1795— 900	1830—2,663	1865—6,072
1800—1,200	1835—3,268	1870—6,802
1805—1,400	1840—3,330	1875—6,937
1810—1,600	1845—3,982	.

From 1771 to 1815 the population is estimated. From 1820 it is the complete Town Census, and subject to a deduction.



# A LIST OF NEWSPAPERS AND PERIODICALS

PUBLISHED IN LANSINGBURGH; MANY FILES OF WHICH ARE STILL PRESERVED  
BY CHARLES J. LANSING, ESQ., OF LANSINGBURGH.

1787. THE NORTHERN CENTINEL AND LANSINGBOROUGH<sup>1</sup> ADVERTISER, established Monday, May 21, 1787, weekly, by Claxton & Babcock; "King street, between Hoosack and South streets." The first newspaper printed within the present limits of Rensselaer county. October 15th, 1787, the publishers altered the name "Lansingborough" to "Lansingburgh, with the following apology: "The public will please to notice that the printers through misinformation, (being strangers here when they first established their business) have called the town, Lansingborough: but on consulting the records, they find it to be Lansingburgh; by which name they shall in future publish it. They beg the public will pardon the error into which they have inattentively been led." Files extant to January 8, 1788. Politics, Federal.
1788. THE FEDERAL HERALD, Monday, May 5, 1788, weekly, by Babcock & Hickok, corner of King and Hoosack streets. Files extant to May 17, 1790. Politics Federal.
1791. AMERICAN SPY, Friday, April 8, 1791, by Silvester Tiffany, a little south of Douglass' tavern. August 2, 1792, by Silvester Tiffany and William W. Wands. December 21, 1792, by W. W. Wands. Files extant to June 6, 1797.
1797. THE NORTHERN BUDGET, Tuesday, June 20, 1797, Robert Moffitt & Co. Office removed to Troy, and paper issued, Tuesday, May 15, 1798.
1798. LANSINGBURGH GAZETTE, September 12, 1798, weekly, by Gardiner Tracy; office on King street. October 14, 1806, Gardiner Tracy and Luther Bliss. April 24, 1826, sold to Augustus Filley, who transferred it to Jesse C. Young. The latter then changed the name of the paper to
- THE RENSSELAER COUNTY GAZETTE. Under this title it was published by Jesse C. & Jeremiah Young, the first issue being

<sup>1</sup> See page 333, History of the City of Troy.

Tuesday, May 2, 1826. Subsequently the name was changed to the

LANSINGBURGH DEMOCRAT AND RENSSELAER COUNTY GAZETTE.

Discontinued in the fall of 1828. A new series of the Gazette was issued December, 1826, by Edward J. Van Cleve. In 1832 Walter S. Fairchild became proprietor of the paper. December, 1833, William H. Gray became its editor, and remained until September 30, 1838, when William B. Harkness and William H. Winans succeeded him, and Edgar A. Barber became editor. July 9, 1843, the building in which the Gazette was published was destroyed by fire, and the files of the paper were burned. The Gazette was thereafter, until September 7, 1843, printed at the Whig office in Troy. December 4, 1846, William B. Harkness, editor and proprietor. December 1, 1847, Wm. B. Harkness & Alexander Kirkpatrick. October 30, 1849, Alexander Kirkpatrick. July 1, 1869, Samuel B. Kirkpatrick, editor, S. B. Kirkpatrick and J. D. Ayres, proprietors. November, 1872, A. Leslie Elliott, editor and proprietor. Sept. 1, 1873, Elliott & I. L. Van Voast. August 22, 1874, C. G. Coutant. July 31, 1875, John J. Benson. March 17, 1877, George E. Babcock, editor and publisher. June 16, 1877, John Quinn, editor. June 23, Quinn & Eugene L. Demers.

1803. THE FARMERS' REGISTER, Tuesday, January 25, 1803, weekly, by Francis Adancourt, opposite Jacob's (now Phoenix) Hotel. Politics anti-Federal. Removed to Troy in 1806.

1838. THE DEMOCRATIC PRESS AND LANSINGBURGH ADVERTISER, January 13, 1838, by Wm. J. Lamb. Subsequently changed to Lansingburgh Democrat until his death, November 7, 1859, then by his widow, N. Maria Lamb, under her husband's name, until January 26th, 1860; then Joseph D. Comstock until April 6, 1861, when S. V. R. Young and Thomas Robinson published it, and changed its name to the New Advertiser, until July 12, 1861, when it was discontinued.

1841. THE LITERARY CABINET, by James J. Peck, November, 1841.

1844. THE GOLDEN RULE, January 1, 1844, monthly, by Rev. Rolla J. Smith. Edited by Mrs. M. A. Smith, in connection with the Golden Rule Institute, a female seminary located at the corner of Market and Ann streets. In 1847 it was changed to the Young Ladies' Messenger.

1847. THE ANTIQUARIAN AND GENERAL REVIEW, monthly. First

issued at Schenectady in March, 1845, by Rev. Wm. Arthur, editor. In March, 1847 removed to Lansingburgh, Rev. Wm. Arthur remaining its editor until 1848.

1860. THE LANSINGBURGH DAILY GAZETTE, Tuesday, January 3, 1860, by Thomas Mitchell and Alex. Kirkpatrick. February 6, 1860, A. Kirkpatrick and Edward K. Hawkins, till discontinued February 11, 1860.
1864. SEMI-WEEKLY CHRONICLE, by J. D. Comstock, printer for the publishers, April 6, 1864; office over the Rensselaer County Bank; Wednesdays and Saturdays. December 31, 1864, was merged into the Lansingburgh Weekly Chronicle, conducted by J. D. Comstock until July 4, 1866, then by Daniel Cady, under the name of the Lansingburgh Chronicle and Family Guide; then as the Weekly Chronicle and Watchman, which was afterward removed to Cohoes.
1872. OUR LITTLE PAPER, small weekly; Friday, Sept. 13, 1872, by E. D. Ayres. Discontinued in December, 1873.
1873. THE ENTERPRISE, small weekly; November 29, 1873, by J. C. Comstock, chief editor, assisted by Milo S. Thompson and C. W. Witbeck. Discontinued February 28, 1874.
1875. THE LANSINGBURGH COURIER, weekly; Friday, December 24, 1875, by Isaac L. Van Voast and Wm. H. Engel.

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